

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000
PUBLIC LAW 110-343
TITLE II PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM
USDA FOREST SERVICE

Name of Resource Advisory Committee: **Olympic**
Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):
Funding Fiscal Year(s): **2012**

2. Project Name: Mason County - Hood Canal Ranger District Cooperative Noxious Weed Control	3a. State: Washington 3b. County(s): Mason
4. Project Submitted By: Patricia Grover on behalf of the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board and the Hood Canal Ranger District	5. Date: 03/25/2011
6. Contact Phone Number: (360) 427-9670X592	7. Contact E-mail: PatriciaG@co.mason.wa.us

8. Project Location:	
a. National Forest(s): Olympic	b. Forest Service District: Hood Canal
c. Location (Township-Range-Section) Township <u>19N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>20N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>21N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>22N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>23N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____ Township <u>24N</u> Range <u>1-6W</u> Section(s) _____	

9. Project Goals and Objectives: The goal of this project is to stop the spread of noxious weed species, reduce existing populations and prevent the introduction of additional non-native plant species onto National Forest lands. In addition, the project seeks to protect ecosystems from the impacts of invasive plants through an integrated approach that emphasizes prevention, early detection, and early response or treatment (EDRR). The project will continue to build cooperative working relationships between the public, landowners, and agencies managing public lands. Public education and awareness will continue to be a key element of Mason County's Noxious Weed Control program.

10. Project Description: a. Brief: The project will facilitate the detection and treatment of noxious and invasive weed infestations on National Forest lands, bridge the jurisdictional gap to ensure that neighboring properties with infestations do not degrade National Forest natural resources, and deliver education and technical assistance regarding the impacts and control of noxious weeds to residents of, and visitors to, Mason county.
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b. Detailed:

This project would support the continued development of a comprehensive noxious weed control program in Mason County, including the Hood Canal Ranger District of the Olympic National Forest. Activities would include:

- **Survey, identification, documentation and control of noxious weeds**
- **Recommend and facilitate the use of Biocontrol agents where appropriate**
- **Coordination of actions and communication between local and Federal jurisdictions**
- **Public education of noxious weed impacts and methods for control**
- **Noxious weed survey and control efforts targeting rock quarries and pits within Mason County.**

Title II funding since 2005 has afforded Mason County and the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board the opportunity to develop a Noxious Weed Control program which is responsive to the needs of the Mason County public and collaborative with other agencies and groups. Program funding provides training opportunities to staff, partners, and volunteers and employment to several local residents. Continued Title II funding will allow the Mason County Noxious Weed Control program to be an active participant in the protection of National Forest lands from the threat of invasive species.

On federal lands, the project will implement the Olympic National Forest Integrated Weed Management Program. Olympic National Forest personnel develop an annual Project List which identifies known infestations, or key project areas, targeted for control. Control of noxious weeds is prioritized along roads and trails, in campgrounds and gravel pits. These areas serve as primary vectors for new weed invasions between land ownerships and into lands previously uninhabited by weed species. Additional activities will include continued educational outreach, monitoring previously identified sites, (with emphasis on areas where weeds have been controlled in previous years), and surveying and mapping additional areas as time allows.

The Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board will provide the vital link to private land owners whose weeds threaten federal lands. This project will also fund county weed control activities that complement Forest Service efforts to protect vital natural resources in areas where uncontrolled noxious weed populations on federal, state, county, and private lands are spreading and hindering control activities between different jurisdictional boundaries. The program will implement control measures using the most effective mix of treatments in accordance with the Forest Service Regional/Local EIS and State/County guidelines for state land and county rights-of-way.

The program may utilize WCC crews or other Natural Resource crews to control the largest infestations. Crewmembers would learn natural resource skills and gain experience that may yield future employment in noxious weed control or habitat restoration. Weed control would be accomplished by manual methods and selective herbicide treatments. Locally-hired Weed Board staff train, direct and document work.

Educational outreach through newspaper articles and Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board participation at multiple events throughout Mason County will increase public awareness of noxious weeds and the problems they create by directing programs at members of the community who work, live near, or recreate in the Olympic National Forest.

The project will include follow-up activities and monitoring. Agency representatives will meet regularly to communicate progress and to revise project direction as necessary.

11. Types of Lands Involved? Private and public lands

State/Private/Other lands involved? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Land Status:

If Yes, specify: **Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board personnel will coordinate control efforts on private properties or other non-federal areas with invasive weed species with potential to degrade Forest Service land and natural resources.**

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (Check at least 1)

☐ Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.

☐ Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.

☒ Restores and improves land health.

☐ Restores water quality

13. Project Type

a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)

☐ Road Maintenance

☐ Trail Maintenance

☐ Road Decommission/Obliteration

☐ Trail Obliteration

☐ Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify):

☐ Soil Productivity Improvement

☒ Forest Health Improvement

☒ Watershed Restoration & Maintenance

☒ Wildlife Habitat Restoration

☒ Fish Habitat Restoration

☒ Control of Noxious Weeds

☐ Reestablish Native Species

☐ Fuels Management/Fire Prevention

☐ Implement CWPP Project

☐ Other Project Type (specify):

b. Primary Purpose (select only 1): Noxious and Invasive Weed Control

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish

Miles of road maintained: **100 miles surveyed/invasive plants controlled.**

Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:

Number of structures maintained/improved:

Acres of soil productivity improved:

Miles of stream/river restored/improved:

Miles of fish habitat restored/improved:
Acres of native species reestablished:
Miles of trail maintained:
Miles of trail obliterated:
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction): See acres of noxious weeds and invasive plants controlled.
Acres of rangeland improved:
Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved: See acres of noxious weeds and invasive plants controlled.
Acres of noxious weeds controlled: 120 acres, includes miles of road controlled
Timber volume generated:
Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 52 forty hour weeks: 0.8
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention): 20,000
Direct economic activity benefit:
Other:

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 04/01/12	16. Estimated Project Completion Date: Ongoing
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17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.

Jefferson, Clallam, Mason, Gray's Harbor, Kitsap, Pierce, King, and Thurston County Weed Boards, Olympic National Park, Mason Conservation Districts, Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board, Washington State Departments of Agriculture, Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Transportation, Washington State University Extension, University of Washington Sea Grant, City of Shelton, Green Diamond Resource Company, Manke Lumber Company, Skokomish and Squaxin Tribes and numerous community groups and clubs.

18. Identify benefits to communities.

This project will improve overall forest health and natural watershed functions while preserving multiple economic and recreational uses of the forest. By preventing the spread of invasive plant species to neighboring landowners, economic use of private property is also preserved. Funding from this proposal would enhance the Mason County weed program's ability to directly contribute to the preservation of clean water, agriculture, and healthy forests, natural resources vital to the economy of Mason County.

19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?

Noxious weeds negatively impact federal lands in many ways, such as impeding forest regeneration, degrading fish habitat, choking waterways, and replacing beneficial plants with non-palatable or poisonous species. By removing, controlling, and preventing noxious weed infestations, this project improves general watershed and forest health while preserving the aesthetic beauty, and the economic and recreational uses of the forest.

20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment? (check at least 1)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreement
<input type="checkbox"/> Americorps	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YCC/WCC Crews
<input type="checkbox"/> Job Corps	<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> Merchantable Timber Pilot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Mason Conservation District WCC Crew

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? ☐ Yes ☒ No

22. Anticipated Project Costs
a. Title II Funds Requested: \$45,280.00
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? No

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding:

Mason County/Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board-\$9,132.00 in-kind

24. Monitoring Plan (provide as attachment)

- a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above.
- b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring:
- c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k):

25. Identify remedies for failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account.

☒ Other, please explain: If weed projects are not completed within a certain treatment window, we will extend the completion date until it can be done. If there are additional funds not expended at the end of the agreement, we will produce more treatment acreage until the funds are exhausted.

Project Recommended By:

/s/ (*INSERT Signature*)

Chairperson

Resource Advisory Committee

Project Approved By:

/s/ (*INSERT Signature*)

Forest Supervisor

National Forest

Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet 1

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA/CEQA				
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering				
f. Contract/Grant Preparation				
g. Contract/Grant Administration	1,000.00	1,532.00	1,532.00	3,064.00
h. Contract/Grant Cost	10,000.00			
i. Salary/MCNWCB	5,000.00	35,328.00	5,200.00	40,528.00
j. Materials & Supplies		1,320.00	1,200.00	2,520.00
k. Monitoring*				
l. Other-transport		2,070.00	1,200.00	3,270.00
m. Project Sub-Total		40,250.00	9,132.00	49,382.00
n. Indirect Costs-County @ $\approx 12.5\%$		5,030.00		5,030.00
Indirect Costs-Forest Service				
o. Total Cost Estimate	16,000.00	\$45,280.00	\$9,132.00	\$70,412.00

NOTES:

- a. Pre-NEPA Costs
- g. Includes Contracting/Grant Officer Representative (COR) costs. Excludes Contracting/Grant Officer costs.
- i. Cost of implementing project
- l. Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.
- n. Contracting/Grant Officer costs, if needed, are included as part of Indirect Costs.

*monitoring is part of the overall project and salaries have been included

Mason County – Hood Canal Ranger District Cooperative Noxious Weed Control Monitoring Plan

Monitoring and measuring progress of the Mason County – Hood Canal Ranger District Cooperative Noxious Weed Control project is built into the program on several levels.

Before treatments begin, a project plan is developed by USDA Forest Service personnel utilizing project planning documents, survey data and contractual and Weed Board treatment data. This document contains the Forest Service's highest priorities and includes treatment acres. During a spring meeting, Forest Service and county Weed Board staff meet to understand specific goals for the year, how the work is to be documented, and discuss any new developments, needs, or items of special concern.

Seasonal field crews are trained and supervised by licensed Weed Board staff *at minimum* until they obtain a Washington State applicator's license. Field crews monitor previously treated areas, note the condition, and perform and document any necessary treatments on Forest Service forms. Consistent follow-up visits and treatments over several years are key components of a successful invasive plant control program. Weed Board staff regularly submit reports (FACTS, NRIS, pit survey forms) and communicate with Forest Service staff about where and how much work has been accomplished. Often new sites or new priorities emerge during the season, and the field crew is able to respond quickly to Forest Service needs or adapt as actual conditions dictate. Forest Service staff periodically inspect treatment areas to make sure projects are on task.

At the end of each treatment season, activities are summarized and priority areas identified for following year treatments on Forest Service lands. Treatment information is used by the Forest Service to file compliance reports to meet ESA consultation requirements and to see whether the program is meeting the overall goals of the invasive plant program. Weed Board and Forest Service staff meet late fall to debrief. Project finances are monitored and approved by Forest Service staff.